

SCANDAL AT COURT

The Trial of Herr Von Tausch Begins in Berlin.

LEADING MEN ARE INVOLVED

And the Official Intrigues May All Be Laid Bare.

SENSATIONAL DEVELOPMENTS

May be the Outcome of the Hearing on the Charge of Perjury and Treason--The Conspiracy Against the Chancellor of the Empire which Fused His Climax in the Publication of Newspaper Articles Distorting the Emperor's Speech at Breslau on the Occasion of His Meeting With the Czar.

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BERLIN, May 24.—The trial of Herr Von Tausch, the former commissioner of the secret political police, who was arrested on December 8 last at the close of the sensational Leutnow-Leckers trial, during which the imperial chancellor, Prince Hohenlohe, the minister for foreign affairs, Baron Marschall von Bieberstein, and the German ambassador to Austria, Count Philip von Eulenburg, were among the witnesses, commenced to-day and will probably last a week.

Among the witnesses summoned are Baron Marschall von Bieberstein, Count Philip von Eulenburg, ex-ministers von Koller and General Bronsart von Schellendorf, Police President Windheim, Herr Bebel, the socialist leader, and about fifty newspaper men, besides a number of officials belonging to the different ministries.

At the opening of the trial the president of the court cautioned Baron von Leutnow not to depart from the actual truth in the testimony which he might be called upon to give against von Tausch.

The former chief of the secret political police was then examined. He made a statement relative to the employment of von Leutnow as a newspaper man named Schumann by the secret political police and assured the court that he, von Tausch, had never caused political interests to be served by his agents, Schumann, or Normann-Schumann, as said to have been much more guilty than Baron von Leutnow. Schumann escaped from Berlin just in time to avoid arrest. He is charged, in connection with Baron von Leutnow with having signed fictitious names to receipts for money, given them to bribe newspaper writers or editors or subordinate employees of the government to furnish secretly information of every kind wanted in the alleged campaign to discredit the existing cabinet.

Story of the Intrigues.

Von Tausch is charged with four-fold perjury and, incidentally, with treason. He threatens, if pushed to the wall, to make a clean breast of everything, and this may include establishing the identity of the authorship of the famous so-called von Koltze letters, by which an anonymous writer, for over a year, kept the court of Germany in a state of turmoil by making the most scandalous insinuations against male and female members of many aristocratic families, resulting in stormy scenes, separations, duels and deaths. Count von Koltze, the former court chamberlain, according to general report, is certainly not the author of the series of venomous attacks upon the various members of the nobility, and it has been more than once hinted that the author of these scandalous misdeeds is to be found in the very highest circles in Germany. Therefore, under all these circumstances, the very greatest interest is taken in the proceedings against von Tausch, whose preliminary examination may be said to have commenced on December 8, when he was arrested at the close of the Leutnow-Leckers trial. The whole matter seems to date from the fall of Prince Bismarck from power and the accession of Gen. Count von Caprivi to the chancellery, at that time a merciless, underhand political warfare has been waged against Gen. von Caprivi, and his enemies were eventually successful in causing his retirement. This was seemingly followed by another political campaign, this time against several other members of the government, two of whom, Dr. Koeller, minister for the interior, and General Bronsart von Schellendorf, minister of war, lost their portfolios, while others were in danger of the same fate.

The Climax.

The climax came with the events of a year ago when several editors were prosecuted for distorting a speech made by the German emperor replying to a toast from the czar at Breslau, which events are still fresh in the public mind. Then came the libel suits brought by Count von Eulenburg and Baron von Bieberstein against two newspapers. Editor von Leutnow charged that Count von Eulenburg had falsified the emperor's speech, and was the author of other articles involving high officials of the empire.

It was demonstrated by witnesses that von Tausch had repeatedly made false statements to his superior, the minister of the interior, expanding the authorship of articles attacking prominent people, and later, Baron von Leutnow confessed in writing that von Tausch was the instigator of the intrigues complained of.

The editor of the Tageblatt, Dr. Levysohn, under oath stated that von Tausch had given him the material for an article on the czar's toast at Breslau. Von Tausch had sworn to the contrary and he was arrested for perjury and the libel case continued.

In the Meines.

The evidence of a beautiful young girl showed that Baron von Leutnow, her lover, had done everything possible to free himself from the meshes of the net which von Tausch had cast over the latter, how the baron had written letter after letter in his attempts to secure other employment, and how his poverty had compelled him to remain in the employment of the secret police, her naïve avowal leading to prove beyond a doubt that von Leutnow was completely in the power of the chief of Germany's third estate.

Finally, by the evidence of Capt. Hoenig, it was demonstrated that von Tausch, though he knew that his wife was not a certain Herr von Huhn, was the author of an article in the Cologne Gazette attacking General von Dänke, chief of the emperor, as the writer of the article, because von Huhn frequented the foreign office and in order to discredit that department.

Baron von Leutnow and Leckert were then sentenced to sixteen months' imprisonment, and the other and less important persons who were on trial with them were sentenced to shorter terms and fines.

It is quite certain that von Tausch has not conducted his political intrigues

EX-AMBASSADOR LUSTIS.

As a Private Citizen He Gives His Impressions of the French Republic and People--An Arbitration Treaty a Fable.

PARIS, May 24.—The retiring United States ambassador Mr. James B. Eustis, drove to the Elysee Palace to-day and presented his letters of recall to President Faure. After the ceremony Mr. Eustis granted an interview to a representative of the Associated Press and gave the latter his impressions of France, expressed his admiration of the French people and gave his opinion of the rejected Anglo-American arbitration treaty. Mr. Eustis said:

"My four years residence in France has afforded me a very favorable opportunity of studying French institutions and it has been a most interesting study, and it has enabled me to contrast the working of a republican government in France and constitutional government in the United States. There are some points of dissimilarity. They are called sister republics, but as to fundamental principles they are not very closely related. In advocacy of personal liberty, France has never produced a single great man, the fact being that no matter how ardent a republican a Frenchman may be, and how great may have been his devotion to the political rights of the people he does not seem able to form the slightest conception of what are known in England and the United States as the fundamental rights of personal liberty.

"They made a revolution to destroy one empire, but they have many to-day upon the republican soil of France, owing to their system of arbitrary arrests, detention and perquisitions which exist only under the most autocratic form of government. To an American such a system would render life intolerable. It could not be maintained in one day, but no one seems to consider it sufficiently important to protect the personal liberty of the citizens. The French certainly deserve a great deal of credit for having maintained their republic in the face of such adverse circumstances, but they present the strange anomaly of a self governing people being fond of the constant and unrelenting interference of the government in their personal affairs and their personal relations and being supremely indifferent to the rights of personal liberty. An eminent Frenchman with whom I was discussing this question, most truthfully declared:

"The ignorance of public men in France with regard to the working of our constitutional government has often amazed us."

"As regards the French people my residence in Paris has increased my admiration for them. I consider them a most marvellous people as regards their intelligence, their thrift, their habits of sobriety, their wonderful resources and their devotion to political liberty and if, as we do, they allowed their free institutions to develop instead of dwarfing the individuals, their national power would be much greater than it is now."

"As you were for years a member of the senate foreign relations committee, what is your opinion of the rejected treaty of arbitration between Great Britain and the United States?"

"I have always considered it a sentimental fable. It is based upon a false idea, in the first place, that the intelligent processes of diplomacy are inadequate to adjust differences between the two governments, and, secondly, that the amicable process of special arbitration will not be resorted to when diplomacy fails. Both of these assumptions are unfounded, even by our very late experience; and it is a humiliating confession by both governments to admit that these potent instrumentalities are not to be within their reach in the future as they have been in the past. If, on the other hand, it means that the feeling of hostility between the two countries is so pronounced that it is necessary to establish a disciplinary tribunal to keep them in order and to prevent them from rushing at each other's throats (which is a preposterous supposition) any permanent tribunal of arbitration would be brushed aside and utterly fail of its intended purpose."

"What are your plans now?"

"I have presented my letters of recall and, therefore, am a private citizen. I shall shortly leave Paris, settle in New York and practice law there."

EASTERN SITUATION.

Greece Willing to Confide in the Powers. Objects to Treating with Turkey Direct.

ATHENS, May 24.—The Greek government, in a reply to the notification sent by Edhem Pasha, commander of the Turkish army in Thessaly, that he is empowered to negotiate the terms of peace with Greece direct, has informed the ministers of powers here that, as Greece has already confided her interests to the powers, there is no reason why she should negotiate directly with Turkey.

The Cretan chiefs have sent a document to the Greek government, declaring that they are unanimously in favor of political union with Greece, but asking the advice of the government as to the best course to pursue consistently, and with due regard to national interests.

CONSTANTINOPLE, May 24.—The decree of the Turkish government calling for the expulsion of all Greeks from the Ottoman empire, which was to have gone into effect to-day, has been suspended in view of the peace negotiations.

TELEPHONE COMBINE.

Independent Tri-State Convention to be Held at Pittsburgh.

PITTSBURGH, Pa., May 24.—Fifty-five distinct independent telephone companies of Western Pennsylvania, Eastern Ohio and West Virginia are expected to have representatives at the first annual meeting of the inter-state local telephone association, to be held June 3, at the Monongahela House.

One of the objects of the meeting is to bring about a combination of all the smaller telephone companies in order to establish a long distance service. A convention of the district companies will be called for a central point, probably Columbus, Ohio, and there the possibilities of extending the long distance system will be considered.

Independent Telephone Companies.

FORT WAYNE, Ind., May 24.—Representatives of the independent telephone companies from Ohio, Pennsylvania, Tennessee, Virginia, Michigan, Missouri, Illinois, Indiana, Arkansas, Iowa, Minnesota, South Carolina, Wisconsin and Texas are holding a meeting here to devise a means to formulate a toll system in opposition to the Bell Telephone Company.

Judge R. S. Taylor, of Fort Wayne, attorney for the United States in the recent Berliner litigation before the supreme court, spoke of the recent decision of that body.

THE SCHOOL FUND

In the Revised Constitution will Not be Distributed.

THE LIMIT FIXED AT A MILLION

The Matter Decided by the Committee at Charleston--A Day of Lively Debates on Various Proposed Amendments--Lively Tills that Venge on Personalities--The Area of Counties Hereafter to be Created Made a Special Order for To-morrow's Debate.

Special Dispatch to the Intelligencer.
CHARLESTON, W. Va., May 24.—The state irreducible school fund will not be distributed. This was decided by the constitutional committee to-day. The pending amendment proposed, being report No. 9, from the committee on county organization, taxation and finance, was adopted with put three negative votes. The amendment agreed upon preserves the fund intact, fixes one million dollars as the maximum limit, and provides that the interest and all accumulations thereover shall be annually applied to the support of the free schools.

Report No. 14 from the same committee, proposing an amendment to elect three land appraisers, was taken up, and the proposed amendment rejected by a vote of 9 to 5. The question came over from last week and had been thoroughly discussed and was again debated to-day in vigorous fashion by some members. Senator Fast offered strong arguments against the amendment and showed that it was a subject of purely legislative character and the legislature had authority to pass such a law, and it was useless to plant it in the constitution.

The whole of to-day's session was characterized by exciting debates, and some of the members got so warmed up that several personal tilts ensued in the proceedings, notably a picturesque passage between Mr. Hunt and "Pap" Toler. The controversy was particularly warm and at close range the constitution proposition to change the constitution so that new counties could be formed out of an area of 250 square miles, 6,000 population and on a majority vote of the people effected thereby.

The old fight in the last legislature over the new county attempted with Mannington as the county seat, cropped out strongly, and a number of other rural county schemes were hinted at. Mr. Glover, of Preston, spoke earnestly and at length in favor of the change and said that Preston county might some time in the future be divided into two counties. Messrs. Hunt and Toler were in favor of the general proposition to make the way easy for the formation of new counties, any initiative which was made by a vote too big to be kept intact as one county.

Senator Young spoke forcefully against any change at all. The measures provoked some warm talk, and coming to vote its opponents, after having failed to kill it, Mr. Kenney's motion to indefinitely postpone, which was adopted by a vote of 7 to 6, began putting in destructive amendments.

In order to stem the adverse tide and with the hope of making it more satisfactory, on Mr. Glover's motion the limit was raised from 250 to 325 square miles, for both a new county and the old one from which territory might be taken. The limit of population was also raised from six to seven thousand. Another amendment offered was that two-thirds instead of a majority of the voters should be necessary to carry a new county, pending which, a truce was agreed upon, and the measure as amended was made a special order for Wednesday.

Senator Baker offered a resolution looking to the creation of the office of insurance commissioner and providing for his election by the people. Senator Fast submitted a comprehensive resolution in the form of an amendment to the law as at present in important particulars. Reference to a committee was made and the resolution comes directly before the full committee. Report No. 1, from the judiciary committee, changing the word "and" to "or," a verbal error in the present constitution, was adopted.

U. S. SUPREME COURT.

Important Interstate Commerce Decision--Commission Has No Power to Fix Rates.

WASHINGTON, D. C., May 24.—The United States supreme court decided two cases to-day, holding that the United States interstate commerce commission has no power to prescribe rates on railroads which it may control in the future. The cases were those of the commission vs. the Cincinnati and New Orleans Railroad Company and the Florida and Western Company.

The court also affirmed the decision of the court below in the case of C. S. Wright, of Pittsburgh, Pa., charged with a violation of the portion of the interstate commerce law, prohibiting discrimination. Wright granted rebates on beer to pay for drayage. This action was held to be in violation of the law.

In the Cincinnati, New Orleans and Texas case various railroads were concerned and the case was originally instituted by the freight bureau of Chicago and the Cincinnati chamber of commerce. The question involved was whether Congress intended to confer upon the interstate commerce commission power to fix rates. The opinion was rendered by Justice Brewer.

NATIONAL BANKS' RIGHTS.

Supreme Court Decides that They Cannot Deal in Stocks.

WASHINGTON, D. C., May 24.—The questions whether the statutes relating to national banks prohibiting them from purchasing or subscribing to the stock of another corporation, and whether the want of authority can be urged by the bank to defeat an attempt to enforce against it the liability of a stockholder, were passed on by the supreme court to-day, in the case of the California National Bank, plaintiff in error, vs. Nat. Kennedy.

It was held that the California National Bank, of San Diego, held 990 shares of stock of the California Savings Bank, the former having suspended on November 13, 1891, and the latter December 29, 1891. The superior court of San Diego county, held that the national bank was responsible to the creditors of the savings bank to the amount of \$18,567, the former making the defense that a national bank has no right to deal in stocks, although it may accept them as security, and that it may plead its want of power as defense in a case like the one in question. The transaction in the stock of the savings bank is held to have been void and the judgment of the supreme court of California against the national bank is reversed.

THE TARIFF BILL.

Differences Between Republican Members to be Settled in Caucus--No Set Speeches to be Made and Passage Expedited.

WASHINGTON, May 24.—The Republican caucus to-day emphasized the fact that there is a wide divergence of opinion among the Republican senators on rates of duty fixed in the various schedules of the tariff bill.

The senators were in caucus nearly four hours. The only official announcement that was made after the caucus adjourned was that it was decided to appoint three senators in addition to the Republican members of the finance committee, who are to act as a committee to assist in getting the tariff bill through the senate. It was generally stated, however, that an agreement had been reached that here should be no set speeches on the bill from the Republican side, except that of Senator Aldrich, which is to be delivered to-morrow. A resolution, or memorandum offered by Senator Burrows was agreed to by those present which sets forth that the sense of those present, there not being a full attendance of the caucus, was that Republican senators having amendments to offer should present them to the Republican members of the finance committee, and if the amendments are approved by the committee they are to be offered in the senate. If disapproved the senators presenting them are to have the right to submit them to the Republican caucus, which is to be called upon each schedule if amendments to it are proposed.

The finance committee is to hold sessions each evening for the purpose of hearing propositions from the Republican senators and to decide upon the advisability of presenting such amendments in the senate.

The object of this proposition is to prevent the Republicans from dividing upon various schedules which might be presented. The necessity of this arrangement was developed by the debate and the various contentions of senators.

WEST VIRGINIA MATTERS.

In Washington--Attorney Hooton and Gen. Bukey at the White House--Civil Service Modifications Likely.

Special Dispatch to the Intelligencer.

WASHINGTON, D. C., May 24.—Attorney J. E. Hooton, of Moundsville, and General V. H. Bukey, of Parkersburg, were presented to the President to-day. Mr. Hooton is an applicant for appointment as assistant district attorney for West Virginia and General Bukey wants a place in the consular service. Senator Elkins accompanied them. As previously stated in the Intelligencer, Attorney General McKenna holds, upon an informal examination of the subject, that the assistant attorneys are in the classified service, and therefore cannot be changed at will. Until officially determined, there will be no changes in that branch of the service in this connection. It may be stated that a large number of the officers now classified, are held to be so in a tentative sense only.

There has been an examination held of applicants for the appointments; hence there is no eligible list from which to fill vacancies. In brief, no examination questions were ever prepared for the excepted positions. President Cleveland's order for their classification was issued at so late a day, and included so many officers, that the civil service commission was unable to keep up with the procession. A special committee of the senate, of which Senator Elkins is a member, is now investigating the operation of the law as interpreted and applied under the Cleveland administration, and it is probable there will be a recommendation from that committee for a modification of the orders, so far as they relate to the government printing office, the internal revenue offices, in the states and the higher departmental positions.

Thomas A. Gibson, of Grafton, who held the position under the Harrison administration, of chief engineer of the treasury department, has been restored to the service, though not to his original place. Mr. Gibson was in the classified service, having the certification of the civil service commission, but that the civil service commission was unable to keep up with the procession. A special committee of the senate, of which Senator Elkins is a member, is now investigating the operation of the law as interpreted and applied under the Cleveland administration, and it is probable there will be a recommendation from that committee for a modification of the orders, so far as they relate to the government printing office, the internal revenue offices, in the states and the higher departmental positions.

Representative Dayton will to-morrow present in the house, twenty-two separate petitions, signed, respectively by citizens of Grant, Marion, Preston, Morgan, Monongalia, Randolph and Ohio counties, praying for the adoption of a stringent law on immigration.

SENATE ADJOURNS.

Out of Respect to the Memory of Senator Earle.

WASHINGTON, May 24.—The death of Senator Earle, of South Carolina, was referred to in eloquent terms in Chaplain Milburn's prayer in the senate to-day. Following this Mr. Tillman, of South Carolina, made the formal announcement of Mr. Earle's death and offered a resolution expressing the profound sorrow of the senate. As a further mark of respect the senate at 12:10 p. m., adjourned.

The Postal Congress.

WASHINGTON, May 24.—A special excursion has been arranged for the delegates to the Universal Postal Congress. On Friday they will leave here for St. Louis on a special train. A brief stop will be made at Pittsburgh to permit the delegates to inspect the works of the Westinghouse Electric Company and the Carnegie Steel Company. From St. Louis they will go to Nashville, Tenn., to view the Tennessee Centennial Exposition, thence to Chicago and return via Niagara Falls. The trip will last eight or ten days.

A Minister Goes Insane.

NEW YORK, May 24.—Rev. William Michael Hicks, formerly dean of the Episcopal Cathedral of Quincy, Ill., and who has held charges at Savannah, Ga., and St. Joseph, Mo., was arrested last Saturday charged with annoying Bishop Poter's household by persistent applications for a ministerial post. It was alleged that Mr. Hicks, who is an Englishman and a preacher of rare eloquence, is insane, and an effort had been made to induce him to enter St. John's Land, a retreat for Episcopal clergymen on Long Island. To-day Mr. Hicks consented to enter the retreat and the charge against him was withdrawn.

Was a Small Affair.

JAMESTOWN, N. Y., May 24.—In response to a call for a state convention of the free silver Republicans of New York state to meet in this city to-day there was a small gathering. A preamble and resolutions were adopted affirming adherence to the Republican party and demanding the rejection of the gold standard by that party. Ben S. Dean was elected representative of the state to the Chicago free silver national exposition. A state committee was appointed and given power to transact the business and formulate the policy of the free silver Republican party.

THE PRESBYTERIANS

General Assembly Sends Birthday Greeting to Queen Victoria.

VARIOUS MATTERS CONSIDERED

At Monday's Session--The Freedmen's Board Report--Home Missions and the Educational Department--Limit of Grants to Theological Students--Reports on the Presbyterian Building in New York Under Discussion--A Session in the Baptist Meeting at Pittsburgh.

EAGLE LAKE, Ind., May 24.—The sessions of the general assembly of the Presbyterian church were opened to-day with devotional exercises, led by Elder Killeen Van Rensselaer, of New York. By a general consent reference to the parliamentary tangle on Saturday, regarding the Presbyterian building, was omitted from the minutes. Fraternal greetings were received from the convention of the United Brethren at Toledo, Iowa, and from the general assembly of the Southern Presbyterian church, at Charlotte, N. C. Replies were authorized to these and greetings were sent to the Cumberland assembly and general synod of reformed churches now in session.

The first regular order was the report of the board of missions to freedmen. Among other things the report said:

Although no new work had been projected for the past four years the board found itself operating two large and fully equipped boarding schools for girls that were not on the list last year, one at Anniston, Alabama, and the other at West Point, Mississippi. The former was the generous gift of Mrs. Phineas M. Barber, of Philadelphia, and the other the Mary Holmes seminary started again, after a lapse of nearly two years, the first building having been burned. The first mentioned cost fifty thousand dollars and is out of debt. The latter cost thirty-nine thousand dollars and is mortgaged for five thousand.

Besides these two schools, all the other seven boarding schools had been retained, but the terms had been reduced. Twelve are allowed only six months each, two five months and the parochial schools four months. The number of the latter had been reduced by twenty.

The board had endeavored to carry on the work within its reduced limits on the least possible outlay, and in the interest of economy. The services of the treasurer as a salaried officer and also of the field secretary had been dispensed with. These changes effected a reduction of expense of \$2,996.

The standing committee on this report reported through Dr. Thomas Law, Asheville, N. C., chairman. After reviewing the work of the board resolutions were introduced, commending the work and urging the board's claim on the 4,000 non-contributing churches and individual givers. Special stress was laid on the liability of endowments. Hattie University, Charlotte, N. C., the secretary of the board, Dr. Edgar P. Cowan, Pittsburgh, then addressed the assembly.

Home Mission Board.

The second order of the morning was the report of the committee on home missions appointed last year to confer with the board in New York in reference to the methods of the work and retrenchment of the expenses. It was presented by Dr. William P. Kane, Bloomington, Ill., and closed with recommendations "that the board of home missions be directed so to reorganize its methods of administration, that the executive work shall be placed in charge of one secretary," that the expenditures be made upon the basis of the estimates, made from the averages for several years preceding and that the policy of the board be to avoid debt. The proposed consolidation of treasuries in New York and Philadelphia was also recommended. The committee asked to be continued and instructed, "to consider the best methods of promoting harmony and co-operation between board of home missions and Presbyteries and synods desiring to support and control their own work and to report to the next assembly."

Congratulations to the Queen.

At the opening of the afternoon session of the assembly, Hon. John Wanamaker was recognized and said:

"Mr. Monitor, I rise to put a question of privilege, believing that the assembly would like to be reminded that to-day is the anniversary of that most noble queen, our reigns over the British kingdom. Inasmuch as the compact between Scotland and Ireland embraces the Westminster confession of faith, and her majesty, the queen, attends the Presbyterian church while residing in Scotland, and in some measure belongs to our body from whom all her Scottish chaplains are appointed. It seems meet that some notice should be taken of her birthday at this particular time when the English nation celebrates her diamond jubilee. It has been well said of her that one does not know which to admire more, the queenliness of the woman or the womanliness of the queen."

Mr. Wanamaker introduced the following, which the assembly ordered by a rising vote to be sent to the queen:

"This day being the seventy-eighth anniversary of the birth and sixtieth anniversary of the coronation of her most gracious majesty Queen Victoria, whose reign has lasted longer than that of any other monarch in the last thousand years, this general assembly of the Presbyterians church in the United States of America deems it fitting and does hereby send most cordial Christian greetings to both the illustrious Christian sovereign and the subjects of her gentle, generous and righteous rule over the destinies of the empire over which the sun never sets."

The regular order of the afternoon was the consideration of the report of the board of education.

On motion of the board, the assembly resolve to place the limit of its grants to theological students at \$80, even if this should result in cutting off some students from aid.

The plans of the fifth year for the theological students to be spent in practical work on the home mission field in voluntary service received the approval of the assembly.

The second order was the discussion of reports on the Presbyterian building in New York. Dr. Duncan Brown, Tarkio, Mo., opened the debate. He offered a substitute for the reports before the assembly, leaving the disposal of the premises at Twelfth and Twentieth streets, New York, to the action of the boards, expressing appreciation that the labors of the members of the same, and advising the sale of the Twentieth street property. Dr. Wilson Phares, member of the board of home missions, defended the majority report. He claimed that the rental of the building would so cover the mortgage that it would consequently be a good investment. The speaker regretted to find a spirit of antagonism in the assembly to spread false rumors.

Several other speeches were made under the five minute rule, but without

bringing out any new points. At the adjournment the discussion went over as unfinished business.

The annual union meeting of the Woman's Board of Foreign Missions was held to-day. The morning session was devoted to suggestions for a foreign missionary work from ladies of the several boards and the speeches by some of the missionaries themselves.

Mrs. H. H. Fry, Dr. Eva H. Field, Mrs. R. J. Mitchell and Rev. Frank E. Hoskins, addressed the afternoon session. The evening popular meeting in interest of the work among freedmen was presided over by Hon. John Wanamaker.

BAPTIST MISSIONS.

Eighty-third Anniversary of American Union Convened in Pittsburgh.

PITTSBURGH, Pa., May 24.—After devotional exercises, conducted by Rev. Emory W. Hunt, of Ohio, the eighty-third anniversary of the American Baptist Missionary Union began in the Fourth Avenue Baptist church at 10 o'clock this morning.

The American Baptist Missionary Union, organized May 18, 1814, has charge of all foreign mission work and also has a number of institutions, for higher education established under its control in foreign lands.

The convention was called to order by Rev. Henry F. Colby, of Ohio, the president, after which the report of the executive committee was presented. The report gave an interesting account of the work done during the past year.

The treasurer's report showed that he received \$467,101.89 from the following sources: Donations, \$258,298.95; legacies, \$45,740.59; woman's society of the east, \$75,985.23; woman's of the west, \$30,770.13; woman's society of California, \$1,776.43; Woman's society of Oregon, \$385; Bible day collection, \$1,321.44; additions to permanent funds and bond accounts, \$18,140; income on funds, \$36,222.66; Gordon memorial fund, \$558.82; rent of mission property in Siam, \$812.84.

The donations were received from the following localities: Maine, \$3,923.06; New Hampshire, \$5,351.34; Vermont, \$2,709.15; New York, \$1,345.48; Rhode Island, \$5,043.95; Connecticut, \$8,588.89; New Jersey, \$64,085.23; New Jersey, \$11,821.41; Pennsylvania, \$27,172.32; Ohio, \$27,316.73; Illinois, \$18,927.35; Wisconsin, \$8,532.15; Norway, \$54.29; Denmark, \$502.65; Sweden, \$540; England, \$20; Spain, \$7.82; Burma, \$6,215.92; Assam, \$1,865.09; China, \$1,345.48; Japan, \$1,865.09; India, \$5,776.69; Congo, \$78.50; Alaska, \$3.66; miscellaneous, \$3,309.83.

The balance came from different portions of the United States.

The expenditures were as follows: Appropriations, for the year, 1897-98, \$566,835.58; added to permanent funds and bond accounts, \$15,740.59; total, \$582,576.17; leaving the debt, April 1, 1897, \$231,721.32. Of the \$582,576.17, appropriated for the year, \$494,537.86 was for the various missions, \$2,747.08 for publication; \$18,504.40 for annuities, \$26,810.96; for district secretaries, and agencies, \$21,740.80; for executive officers, \$12,231.82; for general expenses, and \$4,281.86 for interest account.

A Session.

After reading of the report Rev. W. H. Cossum, a missionary from China, arose and said he was opposed to retrenchment. "You sent me to China to work," said he, "and you can't retrench me. You can't retard the work by retrenchment, first consecrate yourself to God; make your gift clear and we will accept it. Otherwise we should not touch it. I don't say this about John D. Rockefeller particularly or alone, but to all who make such offers."

This statement caused a profound sensation and at that moment there was a painful silence, followed by scattering applause.

A number of delegates followed Mr. Cossum in opposition to his remarks, but he chairman finally dismissed the matter by saying, "When our brother has been longer in this country and becomes better acquainted he will modify his views."

The meeting then adjourned without taking action upon the report under consideration.

Progress in Japan.

The afternoon session was presided over by Rev. H. F. Colby, D. D., of Ohio, who conducted opening devotional services. Addresses by returned missionaries followed.

Rev. George V. Taft, missionary to Japan, made an interesting address. He said: "Eight years ago there were 1,000 Baptists there and now there were 2,000. Eight years ago the churches had a theological seminary which was a disgrace to the Baptists. Now they had one of the best equipped seminaries in Japan. The boys' school existed eight years ago only in the minds of the missionaries and a few friends at home. Now they had such a school, with buildings and grounds which are a credit to all concerned."

The board of managers reported on the educational status of the several colleges and made some recommendations, after which the meeting adjourned until to-morrow.

PARDON IRREGULAR.

Gov. Pingree Turned Down by the Legislative Committee.

DETROIT, Mich., May 24.—A special to the Tribune from Lansing, Mich., says the legislative committee which investigated the pardon by Governor Pingree of convict Wixom, an inmate of the Jackson state prison, reported to-night that the pardon was irregular and intimated that Sybrant Wessellus, state railroad commissioner, was responsible for it. The committee reported testimony to the effect that Wessellus was to have gotten \$500 for his influence in securing the pardon and charges that the railroad commissioner is guilty of contempt in having refused to respond to